

Town of Tremont, Maine
Solid Waste and Recycling Committee (TSWRC) Meeting Minutes
Tremont Community Building
Monday, October 27, 2003

1. **PRESENT:** Selectman Scott Harper, Chairman John Buckwalter, Frank Gray, and Elliott Spiker.
2. **VISITOR:** Tom Miragliuolo, Planner, Waste Management and Recycling Program, Maine State Planning Office. Tom's phone number in Augusta is 207/287-9074.
3. **CALL TO ORDER:** Monday, September 22, 2003 at 5:45 p.m.
4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Buckwalter, Gray moved to approve minutes from the September August 22, 2003 meeting; approved 4-0.
5. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a. **Pay-As-You-Throw:** Tom Miragliuolo from the State Planning Office gave a presentation on Pay-As-You-Throw (PAYT), how it works and how it can be implemented. The State Planning Office strongly endorses Pay-As-You-Throw as a way of increasing recycling and reducing municipal solid waste (MSW) and the resulting disposal (tipping) charges. Typically, fees are charged per bag of trash, while recycled stuff is accepted free of charge. Tom cited a number of success stories from around Maine. The average reduction in MSW is something like 44%. Approximately 140 Maine towns, accounting for about 23% of Maine's population, have PAYT programs. For example, towns with PAYT include Ellsworth, Winter Harbor, Bucksport, Belfast, Searsport, and Machias.

In the coming months, this committee will carefully consider the pros and cons of PAYT for Tremont. We understand that it typically takes a town 6 to 18 months to implement a PAYT program. A major challenge would be to ramp up a program to deal with the expected large increase in recyclables, which Tremont would develop in conjunction with the Acadia Disposal District after its contract with EMR has ended.
 - b. **Cardboard Recycling:** The committee discussed the need for more cardboard recycling. It is costly and unnecessary to include cardboard in the MSW. Many communities, such as Bar Harbor, require that all cardboard be recycled. This committee will consider developing a cardboard ordinance for Tremont. We will need to determine how a cardboard ordinance would impact Tremont businesses, as well as if and how it might be implemented in conjunction with the current contract with EMR.
6. **NEXT MEETING:** Monday, November 24, 2003 at 5:30 p.m.
7. **ADJOURNMENT:** 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Elliott Spiker, Secretary (207/244-0910)

Town of Tremont Solid Waste and Recycling Committee:

John Buckwalter	Chairman	244-7462 (cell 266-1666)	
Frank Gray	Member	244-9683	
Scott Harper	Selectman/Member	244-0333 (cell 266-0899)	
Elliott Spiker	Member	244-0910 (cell 266-4921)	espiker@islescape.net
George Urbanneck	Member	244-9695	westofeden@acadia.net